

Lilies and Ravens International
and ISixOne Productions

Present

THE HIDDEN DREAM



The Filipino Experience with America
From the Bataan Death March
to the 21st Century

A Film by
Sheila Duenas Imme and Jon Imme

Press Kit

Lilies and Ravens International
233 North Maclay Ave. #142
San Fernando, CA 91340

info@liliesandravens.org
www.liliesandravens.org

Synopsis

This 60 minute documentary portrays the little known history of America's second largest immigrant group since 1990 ... Filipinos. Survivors of the infamous Bataan Death March and equally brutal Japanese prisoner of war camps share their memories of courage, torture and death. They speak with outrage of the Rescission Act of 1946 which denied them the benefits and recognition deserved as being part of the United States Army. Impassioned protests and political speeches eventually enabled the Rescission Act to itself be rescinded in 2008. The veterans, many of whom are in their 80's and 90's are dying at an alarming rate with many of their claims not yet realized.

This complex relationship with America continues today as Filipinos share their pride upon being sworn in as United States citizens while other Filipinos remain in the shadows fearing deportation. Today's Filipino youth, the first generation to be primarily born in this country, relate their confusion at what it means to be Filipino and American as well as their frustration that the truths of The Hidden Dream have been hidden from them.

A Statement from the Film's Executive Producer

I immigrated to Los Angeles, California from Manila, Philippines in 1996. During the years that followed I began to realize that the Filipino community in the United States was badly stereotyped, poorly represented in any position of authority, almost to the point of being hidden. So much so that I was amazed to learn that we are the second largest immigrant group to America, second only to Mexico, since 1990.

I had always been fascinated by film. Being naive and impulsive (probably the same qualities that caused me to immigrate in the first place), my husband and I began to make a documentary called "The Hidden Dream ... The Filipino Experience with America from the Bataan Death March to the 21st Century". The first interviews were shot with a home video camera in our kitchen with left over food on the table unintentionally figuring prominently in the background.

Later a kind man in the industry allowed us the use of his camera and also gave us his time and many helpful tips in producing a film. I soon discovered that since this was my first project I could not penetrate the circle - the cycle and re-cycle of names and projects that are frequently funded by the powers that be.

As the film demonstrates it is not the money or even the equipment which makes a project worthy. It is the story and the people who tell the story. I am ashamed to say that as a Filipina I was ignorant of so much of my people's history both in the Philippines and in America. My pride as a Filipina grew as the interviewees shared their story.

This is the story of a people whose acts of bravery and loyalty in World War II were later denied by the United States government which benefited from those acts. A people who viewed this country as their big brother who they greatly loved and respected but whose children view America mostly as a means to achieve the American Dream. A people whose children's children (first generation born in this country) are hungering to learn the stories of their Filipino grandfathers' bravery that start the film, and hungering to learn the language and culture which their parents are too tired to teach.

This is my community. If we are not recognized for who we are perhaps it is a small loss for America. If we don't recognize among ourselves who we are it is a great loss for us.

The Production Team

Executive Producer/Director

Sheila Duenas Imme is a graduate from the University of the City of Manila (Pamantasan ng Lungsod ng Maynila) where she earned her degree in B.S.B.A., major in Accounting. She worked as accountant for several years in the Philippines before immigrating to the United States.



In 1996, she moved with her family to California and has stayed there since.

In 2007, Sheila co-founded with her husband a nonprofit organization called Lilies and Ravens International. She also owns and operates its affiliate, ISixOne Productions, a documentary film company. The two organizations' joint purpose is to bring enlightenment to the general public on society's familiar people and situations yet little known realities. These affiliate companies are currently engaged in film projects which focus on homelessness, immigration, overcoming racial prejudice, and other societal issues.

Sheila produced and directed her first independent film, a documentary entitled "The Hidden Dream" which premiered on PBS KCET and KQED World during the month of May 2010. She is currently working on "Faith In High Places", a Christian documentary, in production since 2010.

Writer/Director

Jon Imme graduated with the degree of Master of Theology from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Missouri. He is a pastor and a high school teacher in Los Angeles, California. He has always been interested in other cultures. He worked and lived with the Chinese in the lower east side of Manhattan, the Navajos on their reservation in Arizona, the African-American community in South Chicago, personally housed boat people refugees from South Vietnam and Ethiopians fleeing the civil war and drought of the early 1980's, as well as worked with lower income whites in lumber mills and on farms in the Washington state. These life experiences taught him to respect other cultures by listening to them with an open-mind willing to learn about them rather than have pre-conceived ideas from slanted commentaries or textbooks. This is shown in the film "The Hidden Dream" by the fact that the



interviewees dictate the script rather than the script leading the interviewees.

Director of Photography/Editor

Ben DeSousa earned the degree of Masters of Science in Film Production at Boston University, Boston, MA and Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering at MIT, Cambridge, MA. He has worked alternately as D.P. or Editor in various formats of programming including documentaries, feature films, TV commercials, PSA's, music videos, short films, and industrials.

Three documentaries in which he participated were broadcast on PBS in the mid-90's. All three were shot entirely out of country. The first show, "**The Lost Africans of The Andes**" was filmed entirely in the mountainous and rainforest regions of Ecuador. He co-shot and co-edited this film, as well as another entitled "**Black Igloo**," the story of an Eskimo family in northern Greenland, shot on location mere miles from the North Pole. He co-edited the third documentary entitled "**Lead Body Burden**," which discussed the issue of lead poisoning in particular South American communities.

Serving as both the Director of Photography and the Editor allows him a unique perspective on the filmmaking process. He shoots footage while knowing the general sense of how the scene will be edited and what coverage is required. Later when he edits he is instantly familiar with the footage available. He is a current member of the International Cinematographer's Guild and a former member of the Motion Picture Editor's Guild.

Music Composer

Kenneth Bauer's passion as a composer for media is his delight in crafting meaningful music for movies, television, documentaries, commercials and videos. As with his over 200 published works, he feels that his success as a composer for media lies in his drive to support, convey and score worthy music for a variety of situations. "The Hidden Dream" is an example of the application of his skill to a film project. Kenneth explains, "My job on a project is to convey and support the emotions and import of a scene as any other participant or actor in the film project." Kenneth's varied abilities is partly the result of his studies with great music composers including Byong-Kon Kim, H. David Caffey, John Paul Clark (protégé of Nadia Boulanger), Peter Alexander, John Kennedy and Jeff Benedict. Kenneth received his Masters degree in Music Composition and received Special Scholastic Honors Recognition in Graduate Studies based on Superior Achievement in all courses of study from California State University, Los Angeles. His background is rich and varied as an arranger, composer, orchestrator, conductor, music copyist, performer, music publisher and music educator. He owns and

Production Credits

Produced and Directed by
Sheila Duenas Imme
Jon Imme

Written by
Jon Imme

Director of Photography and Editor:
Ben DeSousa

Original Music Composed by
Kenneth Bauer

Hosted and Narrated by
Charmaine Clamor

2nd Unit Director: Ben DeSousa
2nd Unit Cinematographer: John O'Shaugnessy
Production Assistant: Earl Edwards, Jr.
Key Grip: Brian Deutsch
Hair and makeup: Rodrigo Alcover, Jr.

Additional Photography:
Earl Edwards, Jr.
Eric Timbreza
Sheila Duenas Imme

Editing Facility:
The Post Group
Christy's

Additional Post Production Services:
Earl Edwards, Jr.

Re-enactments Cast:
Alex Lee (as young Sgt. Floresca)
Edgar Leon (as young Ulysses)
Anna Lee (as young Grace)
Poleen Jael Imme (as "sleeping baby")

Participants:
Major Crescencio Abad
Atty. Ulysses P. Ortillo
Sgt. Max Florentino

Sgt. Salvador Floresca
Alex Lee (as the young Sgt. Floresca)
Edgar Leon (as the young Ulysses)
Cesar Parcon
Cynthia Espino
Rosel Feraren
Rizza Hampton
Gil Gardose
Grace Chang
Anna Lee
Poleen Jael Imme
Alexis Lourenco
Olive Rivera
Donna Santos
Gilbert Rosas
Maria Luisa Panlilio
Antonio Dalan Jr.
Allen Capati
Rifka Barbero
Aileen Ignacio
Jessica Eblamo
Maria Fe Edwards
Valerie Edwards
Wegee Estrada
Lissan Estrada
Elyssa May Nicolas
Raymond Serrano
Mick Hopper
Erlinda Parcon

Songs:

"Sa Ugoy ng Duyan"
Performed by Charmaine Clamor
Written by San Pedro/Celerio
Courtesy of FreeHam Records

"Dahil Sa Iyo"
Performed by Charmaine Clamor
Written by Velarde/Santiago
Courtesy of FreeHam Records

"My Funny Brown Pinay"
Performed by Charmaine Clamor
Written by Rodgers/Hart/Clamor
Courtesy of FreeHam Records

"My Hidden Dream"
Performed by Jessica Imme
Written by Kenneth Bauer
Courtesy of Ken Bauer Productions

Sources:

National Archives
KKLA-Channel 5
This Is the Philippines

Lutheran Church Missouri Synod
Filipino American Student Association (FASA) of Cal. State Northridge

"Crabs" painting by:
Patricia Murillo

Lilies and Ravens International wishes to thank the following:

Donna Santos
Gemma Eblamo
Jenina Flores
Ramil Flores
Teresa Duenas
Rodrigo Ilustre
Maria Cecilia Cabunoc
Eric Timbreza
Daniel D. Day
Armand Gazarian
Michael Gummult
Aubrey Deperio
Robert Wynn

Cathy Kaiser and Production Acctg. Dept. of Bank of America

With special thanks to:

Dr. Ardon Albrecht
Dr. Florentino Timbreza
Dr. Kevin Nadal
Los Angeles Lutheran High School
Country Manor Healthcare
Michael Konik & FreeHam Records
South Olive Apartments
St. Paul College of Paranaque
Malabrigo Elementary School

Taped at:

Country Manor, Lake View Terrace, California
Los Angeles Lutheran High School, Sylmar, California
City of Los Angeles Recreation and Park
South Olive Apartments, Los Angeles, California
Rancho Simi Recreation and Park, Simi Valley, California
Los Angeles Convention Center
Coronado Beach, San Diego, California

Fiscal Sponsorship provided by
International Documentary Association

©2010 Lilies and Ravens International

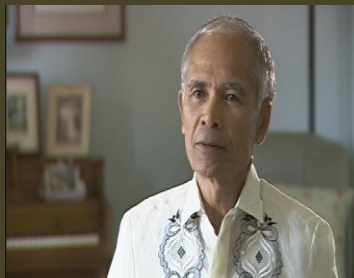
Photos



Major Abad, interviewee on
"The War" & "The Rescission Act"



Alex Lee as Sgt. Floresca on the scene of
"water for my comrades"



Caesar Parcon, interviewee on the "American Dream"



Lissan Estrada, interviewee on not being
taught about the Filipino language and culture



Charmaine Clamor, Host/Narrator for
"The Hidden Dream"